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Docket No.: 09852/0202335-US0 (PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Katsuhiko Yano et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Known

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Known

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: Not Yet Known

For: POWDER COMPACTING METHOD AND  
POWDER COMPACTING DEVICE

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**AFFIRMATION OF PRIORITY CLAIM**

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Dear Sir:

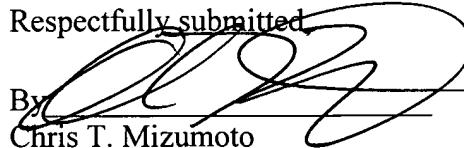
Applicants hereby claim priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 based on the following prior foreign application filed in the following foreign country on the date indicated:

Country	Application No.	Date
Japan	2002-205621	July 15, 2002

A certified copy of the aforesaid Japanese Patent Application was received by the International Bureau on September 20, 2002 during the pendency of International Application No. PCT/JP02/07537. A copy of Form PCT/IB/304 is enclosed.

Dated: January 13, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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